



UMRR - IL, IA, MO, MN, WI - Keithsburg Division Habitat Rehabilitation & Enhancement Project, Pool 18

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

Location

Pool 18, Upper Mississippi River Miles 431- 428, Mercer County Illinois

State(s)

IL

Congressional District(s)

IL-17

Status

General design of the project has been initiated and a feasibility report is scheduled for completion in 2018.

Description

The Keithsburg Division of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Port Louisa National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is a 1,400-acre backwater complex located along the left descending bank of the UMRS between river miles 428.0 and 431.0. The Keithsburg Division lies within Pool 18, immediately north of Keithsburg, Illinois.

Keithsburg Division is a mosaic of both wetlands and bottomland forest. A mature hard mast component still survives on the north end of the Division. The wetlands provide important backwater habitat for fish, migrating waterfowl, shorebirds, amphibians and other wetland species.

The bottomland forest supports a wide array of neotropical migrant birds, a large breeding population of wood ducks, and several declining bird species such as the red-headed woodpecker and the yellow-billed cuckoo.

During the 1993 flood, a large break occurred in the southern tie back levee adjacent to Pope Creek. The levee breach and existing spillway allows some connectivity, but appropriate inlet/outlet designs to reduce erosive forces during high flow conditions through the backwater and sloughs do not exist in the Division. Water level management capability is limited, and uncontrolled flood events result in heavy sediment accumulations. This sedimentation reduces the depth and quality of wetlands, inhibits wetland plant growth, and eliminates overwintering habitat for fish. Frequent inundation inhibits wetland plant growth and island forest regeneration, eliminates overwintering habitat for fish and inhibits and causes increased mortality of mature trees.

Adjacent agriculture fields have high levels of nitrogen and ammonia. When high levels of nitrogen and phosphorus concentrate in the Division from this area, large blooms of nuisance aquatic plants such as blue-green algae and duckweed cover a large extent of the Division. The invertebrate community is also adversely affected by concentrated contaminants; studies indicate low invertebrate density and diversity with communities dominated by pollution-tolerant species. Contaminant-related reduction of the invertebrate food supply is a serious limiting factor for fish, amphibians, and birds which occupy the Division.

Summarized Project Costs

	Construction
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Updated on 2016-Aug-31

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Estimated Federal Cost	\$ 8,000,000.00
Estimated Non-Federal Cost	\$ 0.00
FY 2016 Allocation	\$ 250,000
FY 2017 Planned Allocation	\$ 250,000
Total Estimated Cost	\$ 8,000,000.00

Financial Status

	Construction
FY 2015 Budget Amount	\$ 0
FY 2016 Budget Amount	\$ 0
FY 2017 Budget Amount	\$ 0
Balance to Complete	\$ \$ 8,000,000.00

Additional Project Information

An 8-acre boat ramp site is owned in fee title by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); the remaining acreage is General Plan lands owned by the Corps and outgranted to the USFWS for management purposes.

The USFWS is the non-federal project sponsor. Annual cost for operation, maintenance, and repair will be the responsibility of the USFWS.

Major Work Item (This Fiscal Year)

FY 2017 Continue development of the Feasibility Report.

Major Work Item (Next Fiscal Year)

FY 2018 Completion of the Feasibility Report and initiation of Plans and Specifications.

Point of Contact: Regional Program Manager
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